Miraculous Apostolic Sign Gifts:

Are they for our Day? (Part 3)

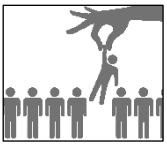
Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA
Sunday, June 5th, AD 2022

The LORD'S Day

The Fifth Day of June, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.



As a sub-series within our larger series on Church History, we begin to examine the **Doctrine of Divine Election**, which became a major issue of contention in the 5th Century AD.

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"God is so Good"* (#433).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* (#28).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: I Cor. 14:18-23.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Special Presentation: Kindergaten Graduates.

Announcemnts.

Hymn: *"Jesus Loves Me"* (#251).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"SEVEN GOOD REASONS FOR CESSATIONISM."*

Closing Hymn:* *"Fairest Lord Jesus"* (#46).

Benediction.*

**The Congregation will please arise, if able.*

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Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)
Also check out our YouTube Channel (search *"Terry Reese"*)!
Camp Mantowagan website: *https://www.campmantowagan.com*

Week of May 29-June 4

Sunday School—8; Morning Worship—20
Midweek—4; Church Offering: $487.00

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—6:30 PM.

Today's Verse for Reflection:

"The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles."— 2 Cor. 12:12 (NASB)

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 15-18: Pastor serving in the Ethics & Mediation Panel (EMP) at the Conservative Grace Brethren National Conference at Dublin, OH. Please pray for travel & success!

Saturday, June 25: Movie Night at 6:30 PM. We will be showing the film "I Can Only Imagine." A GREAT film!

August 1-5, 3:30 PM-5:00 PM: We will be hosting our Vacation Bible School Program, *"Camp Turn Around 2022."*

Congratulations to K-Graduates!

Congratulations to **Nevaeh Beach** (Cambria County Christian School) and **Reagan Edwards** (Shanksville-Stonycreek Elementary) for successfully completing a great first year of school and graduating from Kindergarten! Let us all join in praying regularly for these two girls, praying for God's mighty hand of protection and guidance!

Seven Reasons to Embrace Cessationism

(Pastor Terry L. Reese, Valley GBC of Armagh, PA; 6/5/22)

Cessationism means that the Spirit no longer bestows miracle sign-gifts upon believers as a normative Christian experience as He did in Apostolic times. God *can*, if He so chooses, *personally* perform miracles—but we are referring *here* to the supernatural enduement of miraculous gifts poured out upon a *special class of men*.

1. **The unique role & purpose of miracles.**
   Miracles appear at special times for special purposes. There were only 3 eras in which God worked miracles through *special-endowed men* (the times of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus & the Apostles).
2. **The end of the apostolic office & gift.**
   The Apostolic gift & office has CEASED; no one today is qualified to be an Apostle. This PROVES that the Spirit is not working in precisely the same way that he was in Apostolic Times!
3. **NT-era apostles and prophets filled a distinctly foundational function & purpose.**
   Once the Foundations of the Church were laid & completed, the need for such gifts was *fulfilled*.
4. **The very *nature* of the NT miraculous gifts.**
   Today's Charismatic Movement *redefines* the nature of these gifts, since it is patently obvious that today's so-called expressions of these gifts are NOT like the actual NT gifts!
5. **The clear testimony of later Church History.**
   The miraculous signs were in decline even by the end of the Apostolic Age. Later "miracles" were usually associated with wildly heretical groups.
6. **God speaks through the all-sufficient the Word.**
   We are not left to stumble in the subjective realm; we have the final and objective word of truth.
7. **The NT *regulated* the practice of sign-gifts.**
   There were strict rules governing tongues, prophecy, etc. (Rom. 14). Do we see this *today?*